IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

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Chapter 11

MINING PROJECT WIND DOWN HOLDINGS, INC. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.), et al.,

Case No. 22-90273 (MI)

Debtors.¹

(Jointly Administered)

PLAN ADMINISTRATOR'S OBJECTION TO ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM ASSERTED BY OSTRA CYBERSECURITY INC.

This is an objection to your claim. The objecting party is asking the Court to reclassify the claim that you filed in this bankruptcy case. If you do not file a response within 30 days after the objection was served on you, your claim may be reclassified without a hearing. If a hearing is necessary on this matter, notice of the hearing will be provided by separate notice. Represented parties should act through their attorney.

If you object to the relief requested, you must respond in writing. Unless otherwise directed by the Court, you must file your response electronically at https://ecf.txsb.uscourts.gov/ within thirty days from the date this Objection was filed. If you do not have electronic filing privileges, you must file a written response that is actually received by the clerk within thirty days from the date this objection was filed. Otherwise, the Court may treat the Objection as unopposed and sustain the relief requested.

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The Reorganized Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Reorganized Debtor's federal tax identification number, include: Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) (4534); Mining Project Wind Down LLC (f/k/a Compute North LLC) (7185); Mining Project Wind Down Corpus Christi LLC (f/k/a CN Corpus Christi LLC) (5551); Mining Project Wind Down Atoka LLC (f/k/a CN Atoka LLC) (4384); Mining Project Wind Down BS LLC (f/k/a CN Big Spring LLC) (4397); Mining Project Wind Down Colorado Bend LLC (f/k/a CN Colorado Bend LLC) (4610); Mining Project Wind Down Developments LLC (f/k/a CN Developments LLC) (2570); Mining Project Wind Down Equipment LLC (f/k/a CN Equipment LLC) (6885); Mining Project Wind Down King Mountain LLC (f/k/a CN King Mountain LLC) (7190); Mining Project Wind Down MDN LLC (f/k/a CN Minden LLC) (3722); Mining Project Wind Down Mining LLC (f/k/a CN Mining LLC) (5223); Mining Project Wind Down Pledgor LLC (f/k/a CN Pledgor LLC) (9871); Mining Project Wind Down Member LLC (f/k/a Compute North Member LLC) (8639); Mining Project Wind Down NC08 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NC08 LLC) (8069); Mining Project Wind Down NY09 LLC (f/k/a Compute North NY09 LLC) (5453); Mining Project Wind Down STHDAK LLC (f/k/a Compute North SD, LLC) (1501); Mining Project Wind Down Texas LLC (f/k/a Compute North Texas LLC) (1883); Mining Project Wind Down TX06 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX06 LLC) (5921); and Mining Project Wind Down TX10 LLC (f/k/a Compute North TX10 LLC) (4238). The Reorganized Debtors' service address for the purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 2305A Elmen Street, Houston, TX 77019.

A hearing will be conducted on this matter on June 5, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (CDT) in Courtroom 404, 4th floor, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77002. You may participate in the hearing either in person or by an audio and video connection.

Audio communication will be by use of the Court's dial-in facility. You may access the facility at 832-917-1510. Once connected, you will be asked to enter the conference room number. Judge Isgur's conference room number is 954554.

Video communication will be by use of the GoToMeeting platform. Connect via the free GoToMeeting application or click the link on Judge Isgur's home page at https://www.txs.uscourts.gov/content/united-states-bankruptcy-judge-marvin-isgur. The meeting code is "JudgeIsgur". Click the settings icon in the upper right corner and enter your name under the personal information setting. Hearing appearances must be made electronically in advance of both electronic and in-person hearings. To make your appearance, click the "Electronic Appearance" link on Judge Isgur's home page. Select the case name, complete the required fields and click "Submit" to complete your appearance.

Tribolet Advisors, LLC, in its capacity as Plan Administrator ("<u>Plan Administrator</u>") in the above-captioned bankruptcy cases (the "<u>Cases</u>"), hereby files this *Objection to Administrative Claim Asserted by Ostra Cybersecurity Inc.* (the "<u>Objection</u>"), and respectfully states as follows in support thereof:

SUMMARY OF OBJECTION

- 1. On October 27, 2022, Ostra Cybersecurity Inc. (the "Claimant") filed a proof of claim seeking allowance and payment of qualifying administrative expenses under section 503(b)(9) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") for services allegedly provided during the 20-day period preceding the Petition Date in the sum of \$4,451.18.
- 2. According to the documentation attached to the proof of claim as well as the Debtors' books and records, the Claimant provided cybersecurity services to the Debtors prior to the Petition Date.
- 3. The Plan Administrator hereby objects to the administrative claim of Claimant because the supporting materials and the Debtors' books and records confirm that such claim is

based on services, not goods, and therefore does not qualify for administrative treatment under § 503(b)(9).

4. In support of this Objection, the Plan Administrator submits the *Declaration of Michael Tribolet, Managing Member of Tribolet Advisors LLC, in Support of the Plan Administrator's Objection to Administrative Claims Asserted by Overwatch Surveillance LLC* (the "Tribolet Declaration"), attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The Plan Administrator confirms its consent, pursuant to Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), to the entry of a final order by the Court. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

BACKGROUND

A. Case Background

- 6. On September 22, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), each of the above-captioned debtors (the "<u>Debtors</u>" and, as of the effective date of the Plan, the "<u>Reorganized Debtors</u>") commenced a chapter 11 case by filing a voluntary petition for relief in this Court under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 7. On February 16, 2023, the Court entered an order confirming the *Third Amended Joint Liquidating Chapter 11 Plan of Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. (f/k/a Compute North Holdings, Inc.) and Its Debtor Affiliates* (the "Confirmation Order" and "Plan", respectively).²

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² Docket No. 1019.

- 8. The effective date of the Plan (the "Effective Date") occurred on March 31, 2023.³
- 9. The Plan Administrator is governed by the Amended Plan Administrator Agreement (the "Plan Administrator Agreement").⁴ Pursuant to the Plan, Confirmation Order, and Plan Administrator Agreement, the Plan Administrator is tasked with, among other things: (1) serving as the sole manager, director, and officer of the Reorganized Debtors as of the Plan's effective date; (2) implementing the Plan and any applicable orders of the Court; and (3) reconciling and resolving claims asserted against the Reorganized Debtors' estates.⁵
- 10. The Plan Administrator, its counsel, professional advisors and consultants, including but not limited to Grant Thornton LLP ("Grant Thornton" and collectively, the "Reviewing Parties") are diligently reviewing the administrative claims filed in the Bankruptcy Cases, including the proof of claim filed by Claimant, the claims register, the Debtors' books and records, and the supporting documentation provided by the Claimant, if any.

B. Claimant's Administrative Claim

11. On October 27, 2022, Claimant filed proof of claim number 10031 (the "Proof of Claim") asserting an administrative claim under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code in the Compute North Holdings, Inc. bankruptcy case in the amount of \$4,451.18. According to the Proof of Claim, the expenses incurred by Claimant during the 20-day period preceding the Petition Date consist of cybersecurity services.

³ Docket No. 1082.

⁴ Exhibit F to Docket No. 1079.

⁵ Plan §§ 4.2.5, 7.3; Confirmation Order ¶¶ 53, 88; Plan Administrator Agreement § 1.3.

ARGUMENT

- 12. Claimant is not entitled to payment on an administrative claim basis and the Claim should be reclassified, because the Claim represents a debt for services provided to the Debtors rather than goods, as required for eligibility under § 503(b)(9).
- 13. The Bankruptcy Code is clear that the application of administrative priority under section 503(b)(9) is limited to claims for goods sold. 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(9) ("the value of any goods received by the debtor . . ."); *In re Pilgrim's Pride Corp.*, 421 B.R. 231 (Bankr. N.D. Tex. 2009) (distinguishing between goods and services for purposes of applying § 503(b)(9)). Thus, a creditor who provided services to the Debtors during the 20-day period preceding the Petition Date is not entitled to an administrative claim under § 503(b)(9).
- 14. The invoice attached to the Proof of Claim appears to reflect cybersecurity services for the September 1 September 22, 2022 service period. The invoice describes "service dates" and describes services including "endpoint protection", "remediation", and "firewall". In addition, the Debtors' entry in its general ledger describes the work performed by Claimant as "SaaS Fees" ("Software as a Service"). *Tribolet Declaration* at ¶ 4.
- 15. Based on the information in the Proof of Claim and the Debtors' books and records, Claimant has failed to show a basis for administrative priority. The Plan Administrator is not otherwise aware of any basis for administrative priority. Therefore, the Plan Administrator requests that the Proof of Claim be reclassified to general unsecured status, without prejudice to the Plan Administrator's ability to object to the Proof of Claim on any other grounds at a later date.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

16. This Objection is limited to the grounds stated herein. The Plan Administrator expressly reserves the right to amend, modify, and supplement this Objection, and the right to respond to any assertion regarding Claimant's claim. The Plan Administrator further reserves all

rights to present any evidence at a designated hearing for this proceeding to support its Objection and to disprove any future assertions that may be brought by Claimant. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to contest the Proof of Claim and any other claims asserted by Claimant on any other grounds. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission as to the amount, priority, or validity of any claims asserted by Claimant.

CONCLUSION

17. The Plan Administrator respectfully requests that the Court enter an order, substantially in the form attached hereto, reclassifying the Proof of Claim to a general unsecured claim in the Compute North Holdings, Inc. bankruptcy case in the amount of \$4,451.18, and granting such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

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Dated: April 28, 2023 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles R. Gibbs

Charles R. Gibbs

Texas State Bar No. 7846300

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Counsel to the Mining Project Wind Down Holdings, Inc. Litigation Trust and the Plan Administrator

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on April 28, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served bythe Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern Districtof Texas.

I further certify that on April 28, 2023, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by First Class Mail and electronic mail to claimant Ostra Cybersecurity Inc. at the following addresses:

Ostra Cybersecurity Inc. 3500 Vickburg Ln. N 129 Plymouth, MN 55447 legal@ostra.net

/s/ Charles R. Gibbs

Charles R. Gibbs